

Ukraine's Azot Severodonetsk to restart VAM production

DATE : 2014-02-28

Ukraine-based Azot Severodonetsk is planning to restart production at its 35,000 tonne/year vinyl acetate monomer (VAM) unit, a source close to the company said on Friday.

"VAM is not running, but we are going to restart production to cover the local market after [the Budyenkovsk] explosion," the source said.

Russia's Lukoil said on Thursday it will start repair works shortly at its Stavrolen petrochemical plant in Budyenkovsk after a fire at the ethylene unit on Wednesday caused all production facilities to be shut down.

Stavrolen is controlled by Lukoil, and operates a 60,000 tonne/year VAM plant at the Budyenkovsk site, according to ICIS data.

Azot Severodonetsk's 150,000 tonne/year acetic acid plant is continuing to operate at minimal rates following its restart earlier in the year, the source confirmed.

The VAM and acetic acid units were shut down in September 2013 and remained closed during the winter for economic reasons.

SOURCE *Icis News*